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By: **Delegates Elmore, Boteler, Bozman, Cane, DeBoy, Haddaway, Jennings,  
McConkey, McKee, Sophocleus, and Sossi**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2004

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources - Oysters - Dredge Devices**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing a prohibition on a person on a dredge boat possessing or  
4 using certain dredge devices; and generally relating to oyster dredge devices.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

6 Article - Natural Resources

7 Section 4-1013(f)

8 Annotated Code of Maryland

9 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
11 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

12 **Article - Natural Resources**

13 4-1013.

14 (f) A person may not catch oysters in the waters of the State or possess any  
15 scoop, dredge, handscrape, or similar instrument having a tooth bar more than 42  
16 inches in length measuring from the outside teeth on dredges used in dredging on  
17 rock bottoms or 44 inches in length measuring from the outside teeth on dredges used  
18 in dredging on mud bottoms, or of a weight exceeding 200 pounds. [The captain or  
19 any other person may not possess or use a "devil catcher" or "devil diver", or similar  
20 device on any dredge boat to be attached to the dredge for steering it to the bottom.]

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
22 October 1, 2004.